

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound 20 nucleobases in length, or a salt thereof, targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein B, wherein said compound (1) is fully complementary to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 excluding the start codon region; (2) comprises a plurality of nucleosides having modified sugar moieties and a plurality of nucleosides having phosphorothioate internucleoside linkages; and (3) demonstrates at least 70% reduction of apolipoprotein B mRNA levels when applied in vitro at a concentration of 150nM to HepG2 cells.
- 2-7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 comprising at least one modified nucleobase.
9. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.
10. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound is a chimeric oligonucleotide.
11. (Canceled)
12. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.
- 14-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein said compound inhibits the expression of the long form of apolipoprotein B, ApoB-100.
- 21-27. (Canceled)
28. (Currently Amended) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is ~~a sodium~~ the salt of the oligonucleotide compound.
29. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides 1 to 103 or 157 to 14121 of SEQ ID NO: 3.
30. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide compound targets a sequence within the range of nucleotides 1 to 79 or 182 to 14121 of SEQ ID NO: 3.
- 31-32. (Canceled)
33. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2' substituted sugar moiety or a bicyclic sugar moiety.
34. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the 2' substituted sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.
35. (Previously Presented) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the bicyclic sugar moiety is a locked nucleic acid.
36. (Canceled)
- 37-39. (Canceled)

40. (New) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, having
a gap segment of ten linked 2'-deoxynucleosides,
a 5' wing segment of five linked nucleosides, and
a 3' wing segment of five linked nucleosides,
wherein the gap segment is positioned between the 5' wing segment and the 3' wing
segment, wherein each nucleoside of each wing segment comprises a 2'-O-
methoxyethyl sugar modification, and wherein each internucleoside linkage is a
phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage.
41. (New) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 1, said compound
comprising at least one cytosine, wherein each cytosine is a 5-methylcytosine.
42. (New) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 33, wherein the bicyclic
sugar moiety has a $(-CH_2)_n$ group forming a bridge between the 2' oxygen and the 4'
carbon atoms of the sugar ring, wherein n is 1 or 2.
43. (New) The non-catalytic oligonucleotide compound of claim 28, wherein the salt is a
sodium salt.